GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1303
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
SALE OF PETROL IN OPEN MARKETS IN STATES
Virendra Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the selling of petrol in the open markets in some States;

(b) if so, the States where such illegal selling is going on; and

(c) the reasons why action is not being taken against those who are violating the rules?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c) : It could be possible that at remote & isolated locations not having close access to retail outlets, some persons may be clandestinely selling petrol. Whenever, Oil Company field Officers come across such instances, they take up the matter with the District Authorities for necessary action. Since Oil Companies do not have any business relations with such persons, no action can be initiated by the Oil Companies. Government have already advised the State Governments that in terms of the provisions of the MS/HSD Control Order, 1998, delivery or sale of MS or HSD can be made only by the authorized dealers of Oil Companies. Action in case of such clandestine operations can be taken in terms of the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Government have requested all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to take action for the closure of all such unauthorized outlets which are not in conformity with the provisions of the MS/HSD Control Order, 1998.